WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S

REPORT. 1965.

WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Withnell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st. December 1965.

The population of the District at Mid-June 1965 was 2,780, according to the Registrar General's estimate, which is 20 fewer than the figure for the previous year. As mentioned in last year's Report these estimates showing a decreasing population for the District hardly seem realistic in view of the considerable development taking place in recent years.

The number of live births assignable to the District during 1965 was 36 or 9 fewer than in the previous year which gives a birth rate of 12.9 (adjusted 13.9) per 1,000 population. The birth rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 18.1 and 18.2 (adjusted 18.56) respectively.

The number of deaths assigned to the District was 49 or 21 more than in the previous year. In view of the exceptionally low number of deaths in 1964 an increase to the more usual trend was not unexpected. It should be noted, however, that 22 of the deaths were 7 persons 75 years of age or over and a further 13 were between 65 and 75 years of age, these together accounting for 35 of the total deaths. The 49 deaths give a death rate of 17.6 (adjusted 14.4) per 1,000 population. The death rates for England and Wales and Lancashire were 11.5 and12.27(adjusted13.01) respectively.

The Registrar General has again provided a table giving the causes of death in age groups and this table is reproduced in the Report. Comparing the causes of death with those of the previous year it is found that the number of deaths from malignant diseases is 4 more, deaths from heart diseases show an increase of 7. Vascular lesions of nervous system (strokes) accounted for 9 deaths which is an increase of 1 over the previous year's figure and other circulatory diseases was the cause of 5 deaths in 1965 whereas there were no deaths attributed to this in 1964.

Pneumonia was given as the cause of only one death in the past year and 5 in the previous year but bronchitis accounted for 4 in 1965 and none in 1964. There was one death attributed to respiratory tuberculosis and one to other forms of tuberculosis whilst there were no deaths caused by tuberculosis in the previous year. The death from respiratory tuberculosis was that of a person over 65 years of age and the other death of aperson over 55 years of age. The only death under 45 years of age was due to a motor vehicle accident.

It is very pleasing to note that for the third successive year there were no deaths of infants under one year of age and again there were no deaths arising from childbirth.

In regard to the notification of infectious diseases there were 26 in the past year as compared with only one notification in 1964. These notifications comprised 23 of measles and 3 of scarlet fever.

The outbreak of Poliomyelitis in the nearby County Borough of Blackburn gave rise to an increased demand for Vaccination against this disease and special sessions for this purpose were held. Fortunately no cases of poliomyelitis occurred in the District but it is dangerous to delay obtaining protection against diseases such as poliomyelitis and diphtheria until they are in our midst. It is far better to be safe than sorry.

Environmental hygiene has continued to be an important question in the district in two aspects only. Water supply was considerably improved by the sinking of a borehole on Railway Road together with the adjustment of the Ph level of the water supply received from Liverpool Corporation. Sewage disposal and sewerage was the other important item and a comprehensive scheme has now been prepared and the scheme should be finalised during the coming year, in addition to this certain temporary measures have been proposed which will enable the building programme in the district to continue.

Housing conditions are improving due to the encouragement of improvement grants in the district and private house building has progressed well in the year with approximately 45 new houses being completed. Housing accomodation for the elderly is still under consideration.

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In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members for the kindly consideration afforded to Dr. Doherty and myself at all times. My thanks are also due to Mr. Grimes, Clerk of the Council and to Mr. Carr, Public Health Inspector and Surveyor and the Council Staff for their willing co-operation at all times.

I remain,

Your obedient servant

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SECTION A.

The area of the District is 4,190 acres. The population figure at the 1961 Census was 2849. For 1965 the Registrar General calculated the population as 2,720. The Rateable Value was £81,265 and a penny rate produced £.

The Chief industries are Paper Making, Quarrying, Saw Mills and Cotton Mills. There has been no change in social conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. LIVE BIRTHS.			
Legitimate.	23	12	35
Illegitimate.	NIL	1	1
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population.			
Crude. 12.9			
Adjusted.13.9 (England & Wales 18.1)			
2. STILL BIRTHS.			
Legitimate.	NIL	1	1
Illegitimate.	NIL	NIL	NIL
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births. 27.0 (England & Wales 15.7)			
Total Live & Still Births.			37
3. INFANT DEATHS.			
Legitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
4. INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	NIL (England & Wales 19.0)		
5. NEO NATAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	NIL (England & Wales 13.0)		
6. PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS.	27.0		
7. MATERNAL DEATHS. (including abortion)	NIL		
8. MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE & STILL BIRTHS.	NIL (England & Wales 0.25)		

	DEATHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1.	ALL CAUSES.	22	27	49
	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population		Crude 17.6 Adjusted 14.4	
2.	RESPIRATORY T.B.	1	NIL	1
	Rate per 1,000 estimate population 0.36			
3.	MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS.	5	3	8
	Rate per estimated 1,000 population 2.88			

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

BIRTHS 1.23

DEATHS 0.82

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS.

CRUDE RATE.

YEAR.	Live Births.		Deaths all causes.		Still-births.		Maternal Mortality.		Infant total under 1 year.		Mortality Neo-Natal under 4 weeks.	
	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 population.	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 population	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
1965	36	12.9	49	17.6	1	27.0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1964	45	16.1	28	10.0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1963	35	12.3	40	14.0	1	27.8	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1962	38	13.4	36	12.7	3	73.2	NIL	NIL	1	26.3	NIL	NIL
1961	47	16.5	41	14.4	1	20.8	NIL	NIL	1	21.3	NIL	NIL
1960	38	13.7	41	14.8	3	73.2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

ADJUSTED Live Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.23) 13.9 per 1,000 est.pop.

ADJUSTED Death Rate (comparability factor 0.82) 14.4 per 1,000 est.pop.

ENGLAND & WALES.

Live Birth Rate 18.1 per 1,000 home population

Death Rate 11.5 per 1,000 home population.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1965.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Sex.	Total All Ages.	Birth-45 yrs.	45 years.	55 years.	65 years.	75 years and over
1. TUBERCULOSIS, RESPIRATORY.	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. TUBERCULOSIS, OTHER.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-
10. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	2	-	-	-	2	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, BREAST	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-
14. OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	M	2	-	2	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	2	-	-
17. VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM.	M	4	-	1	-	1	2
	F	5	-	-	-	1	4
18. CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	M	4	-	-	1	1	2
	F	10	-	1	1	3	5
19. HYPERTENSION WITH HEART DISEASE	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-
20. OTHER HEART DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
21. OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	4
23. PNEUMONIA	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-
24. BRONCHITIS	M	4	-	-	1	1	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	1	-	-	1
[illegible]. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	M	1	1	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS.	M	1	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	22	1	4	2	7	8
	F	27	-	2	5	6	14

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Medical Officer of Health. - Dr. J. Walk r M.B.,C.H.B.,L.D.S.,D.P.H.,D.P.

Other Public Appointments.

M.O.H.	Chorley Borough.
M.O.H.	Leyland U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Longridge U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Preston R.D.C.
M.O.H.	Chorley R.D.C.
M.O.H.	Adlington U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Fulwood U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Walton-le-Dale U.D.C.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4. Lancashire County Council.

HEALTH INSPECTOR. Cecil Hilary Carr.
A Part time Officer holding the appointment as Surveyo

LABORATORY SERVICES.
The Public Health Laboratory Preston, is available fo the examination of specimens for the diagnosis of cas of infectious disease and for pathological specimens for ordinary disease.
Similar use of this laboratory is made for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk, water and ice-cream etc.

CHEST CLINIC. The Chest Clinic is at Chorley & District Hospital. This clinic is a consultant clinic for all chest conditions.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.
Held at Preston Royal Infirmary, Blackburn Royal Infirmary, and the Diagnostic Clinic, Civic Centre, Bolton, and the Wigan Royal Infirmary.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.
Chorley & District Hospital.
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.
Preston Royal Infirmary.
Blackburn Royal Infirmary.
Sharoe Green Hospital,Preston.
Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.
Heath Charnock Hospital.
All administered by the appropriate Hospital Management Committees under the Manchester Regional Board.

COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES.

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The County Ambulance Service is radio-controlled and all non-urgent requests for the service are made to Radio Control Headquarters. (Tel. Broughton 2679) The nearest ambulance station is in Preston Street Chorley.

MIDWIFERY AND NURSING IN THE HOME.

There was no resident district nurse or midwife practising in the district. A service has however, been maintained from without the district and at the end of the year arrangements had been made for a resident nurse to take up duty early in 1966.

TREATMENT CLINIC FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN.

The 'Minor Ailment' clinic is held at Collison Avenue Chorley. Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopoedic Dental and Eye etc.) are held at Chorley and attended by Practitioners of Specialist Status. Attendance by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Ante Natal Clinics and Post Natal Clinics.

These Clinics are held on Thursdays at Collison Avenue, Chorley. They are attended by a Consultant obstetrician.

Maternity Beds.

Normal accomodation is available at Chorley District Hospital and Eaves Lane Hospital Chorley. Other Hospitals are also available.

Child Welfare.

A child welfare clinic is held fortnightly (Tuesday 2-4p.m.) at the Withnell Conservative Club, and is attended by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council, as well as the County Health Visitor. Ministry of Health Welfare Foods and other proprietary baby foods may be obtained from this clinic.

Health Visitors.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Nurse Lamb who is available to give advice on all the County Health and Welfare Services.

Home Helps.

A Home Help Service in cases of sickness, Maternity and Old Age is available in the area. Application for Home Helps should be made to the Divisional Medical Officer, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston. (Telephone Preston 77263.)

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of persons on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was.

Types of Tuberculosis.	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959.
Respiratory	8	7	15	15	16	16	10
Non Respiratory	1	1	NIL	NIL	1	1	NIL

HOSPITAL ACCOMODATION.

Infectious Diseases are admitted to the Hospital at Deepdale when necessary.

Smallpox cases - there were none - would have been admitted to the Ainsworth Hospital at Bury.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

Notifiable Disease.	Total all Ages	Age Periods - Years. 0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & over	Age un-known	Total Deaths
Smallpox.														
Scarlet Fever.	3				1		1	1						NIL
Diphtheria.														
Measles.	23		2	2	1	2	15		1					NIL
Whooping Cough.														
Acute Pnuemonia														
Erysipelas														
Gastro entritis														
Dysentery														
Puerperal Pyrexia														
Poliomyelitis														
Meningococcal-Infection														
Food Poisoning.														
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.														
TOTAL	26		2	2	2	2	16	1	1					NIL

Drainage and Sewerage.

There are two Sewerage Works with settlement tanks and sprinklers, one at Brinscall, one at Withnell Fold, and one with settlement and contact beds only at Abbey Village. All of these works are unsatisfactory in various ways, by far the worst being Abbey Village. The whole sewerage scheme is being examined to determine the most economical and suitable comprehensive scheme for disposal throughout the district.

Closet Accomodation at the end of 1965.

Privy Middens	Nil.
Pail Closets	28
Dry Ashpits	Nil
Moveable Ashbins	1,020
Waste Water Closets	16
Fresh Water Closets	1,098
Houses on Water Carriage System.	1,035

Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house refuse was carried out weekly by the Council. The refuse was collected by motor lorry and disposed of by controlled tipping at Ollerton Fold.

Sanitary Inspection.

The number of inspections for nuisances and for defects during the year was 352 and 102 found to be defective, 8 informal notices were se there were no legal proceedings. 87 defects were abated at the year e.

VERMIN

No infestations of insects were found, although the old houses of al the new tenants of Council houses were inspected. Tenants who are apt to become lethargic are visited regularly and encouraged to keep their hous clean and tidy.

One of the sewerage attendants acts part-time as pest officer. His work is summarised as follows.

	Houses.	Farms.	Other premises.
Inspections.	49	-	20
Rat infestations found & treated.	49	-	11.

Sewers. 14 Block treatments of all manholes throughout the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat and Other Foods.

7 Shops are registered as selling meat. Meat is brought direct as there is no private slaughterhouse in the district. Tinned meat, fruit and vegetables were inspected and in cases where necessary, were voluntarily surrendered for condemnation. No statutory action was necessary. All food premises were inspected.

CONDEMNED FOODS.

NIL.

Ice Cream.

All ice cream sold is pre-packed. No samples of ice cream were taken for analysis under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulation. Visits were paid to the 21 shops registered for selling ice cream.

Water Supply.

The supply is obtained for the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks Undertaking from Withnell Reservoir (upland surface water.) and from a borehole on Railway Road, Withnell.

887 Dwelling houses and an estimated population of 2,759 persons are supplied with this water.

25 Bacteriological examinations of water were carried out during the year of which 22 were satisfactory and 3 were unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory reports were followed up and were found to be due to fluctuation in chlorination due to heavy rains and minor defects in the chlorinator.

The high acidity of the water obtained from Liverpool Corporation gives rise to plumbo solvency of quite a high degree and a metering pump and ancillary equipment has been installed in order to adjust the Ph level of the water which is approximately 6, to a more favourable level, and the Ph level is now much improved.

The borehole on Railway Road is being pumped direct to mains as this water is slightly alkaline and contains few suspended solids, and this has improved the water supply considerably.

SCHOOLS.

The total number of schools in the district at the end of 1965 was 5.

Sanitary Conditions of schools at the end of the year:-

(a) Number of schools with unsatisfactory yard surface NONE.
(b) Sanitary accomodation Number of schools with
(1) Fresh water closets 5. (2)Waste water closet only NIL.
(3) Trough Closets. NIL. (4)Pail Closets only NIL
(5) Privy Closets NIL (6)Other types NIL

(c) Drainage - No. of schools with drainage to:-
(1) Public Sewer 5. (2)Private Treatment Works. NIL

(d) Refuse Disposal - No. of Schools with:-
(1) Dustbins 5. (2)Dry Ashpits. NIL

(e) Water Supply - No. of Schools with:-
(1) Public Mains 5. (2) Private Supply NIL
No. of private supplies (e) (2) considered unsatisfactory NIL.
(f) No. of schools where facilities are considered unsatisfactory for
(1) washing. NIL. (2) Drinking. NIL.

School Meals.

Dining facilities and washing facilities are improving gradually in the schools throughout the district.

HOUSING AND HOUSING CONDITIONS.

45 New properties were built at Dick Lane, Withnell Fold & Gerrards Fold. No Council houses were built during the year.
352 Inspections were made for housing defects. There are now 56 houses which are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit. Several unfit houses have been improved by various amounts ranging from internal water closet to full bathrooms thus reducing the need for the provision of extra Council houses.

There are still 2 occupied back-to-back houses, 2 obstructive buildings, 27 houses with pail closets and 16 houses with waste water closets in the district. Owners of houses with pail closets are being pressed to convert to a water bourne system and it is hoped that several will be carried out during next year.

There are no back-to-earth houses, underground rooms, common lodging houses or canal boats, used for human habitation. All houses have an internal water supply and separate closet accomodation.

There is very little overcrowding in houses, except where married sons and daughters cannot find homes of their own.

There are 6 private housing schemes in operation within the district.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 24 Mechanical Factories and 2 non-mechanical factories in the district. 35 Inspections were carried out.

Swimming Baths & Pool.

The Council own the Brinscall Swimming Pool, which is 75' by 25' 5 Slipper Baths and 1 steam bath available. Separate water closets are provided for each sex. Bathers have to use the spray baths before entering the swimming pool. The water is drawn from the public main, heated by an oil fired boiler, circulated once in 6 hours through 3 pressure sand filters and treated with sodium carbonate and chlorine. Samples are taken twice daily to ensure that the water has been adequately chlorinated. 2 Bacteriological examinations were taken, both satisfactory. 1 Chemical analysis was taken and found to be satisfactory. Repairs were carried out to the boiler and pump.

The liberal use of Vanodine together with regular foot inspections have almost completely eradicated outbreaks of verrucae.

A new calorifier has improved control of the water temperature and this has encouraged further use by the Public.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Smallpox Vaccinations	16 Complete Vaccinations. Nil Revaccinations.
Polio Vaccinations	75 Oral (Complete Vacc.3 doses) 102 Reinforcement of Oral Vaccinations.

Children	Immunised	against	Diphtheria only	35
"	"	"	Whooping Cough	24
"	"	"	Tetanus	35
"	"	"	Diphtheria (Reinforcement)	62
"	"	"	Whooping Cough "	Nil
"	"	"	Tetanus "	62

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Inspections. (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(1)Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.....	8	16	NIL	NIL
(2)Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	14	14	NIL	NIL
(3)Other premises in which Section7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	5	NIL	NIL
TOTAL.	27	35	NIL	NIL

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS WERE found.
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of Cleanliness(S.1)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	NIL	NIL			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	NIL	NIL			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	NIL	NIL			
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	NIL	NIL			
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	NIL	NIL			
(c) Not separate for sexes.	NIL	NIL			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	NIL	NIL			
Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

(b) Part VIII of the Act - Outworks: NIL.